

CHAPTER EIGHT

CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION

Innovative Readiness Training Conducted in Communities and Support for Specific Youth Programs

Every day, citizen-soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines provide a critical link between the military and civilian communities. DoD's involvement in providing support and services for eligible organizations and activities outside DoD -- initially implemented under the 1993 Defense Authorization Act and continued under the 1996 Defense Authorization Act -- has been particularly beneficial in strengthening that relationship and in improving readiness. Readiness training is conducted by combat support units and individuals -- especially from the Guard and Reserve -- off base and within communities throughout the U. S., its territories and possessions. These units and individuals hone their wartime skills while working in partnership with the community in a manner that does not compete with the private sector or other governmental agencies. Combat support units and individuals benefit by training in a more realistic hands-on setting, and the community benefits by receiving needed health care, engineering, or infrastructure support, thus providing taxpayers an added value.

Innovative Readiness Training Initiatives

More than twenty engineering/infrastructure and seven health care programs have been conducted in 24 states. Following is a sample:

- Winslow Indian Health Clinic -- Army and Air Force Reserve personnel (doctors, nurses, and technicians) provided excess medical equipment and health care support to over 15,000 Native Americans in Winslow, Arizona, while also receiving realistic hands-on training.
- Kotzebue Care 95 -- Alaska National Guard personnel and Navy and Marine Corps Reservists conducted medical and engineering training in six remote Eskimo villages.
- GuardCare -- National Guard units and personnel conducted readiness training exercises in communities in twenty states (Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin). Readiness training for medical personnel included disease and nonbattlefield injuries and preventable health care, while underserved communities received medical services such as inoculations, medical screenings, and health care education.
- Careforce -- National Guard personnel received hands-on medical readiness training working with civilians in inner-city trauma centers. The program executed in five states (Alaska, California, Tennessee, Missouri, and South Carolina) integrated new tech-

nology to provide military trauma personnel with vital experience, while also supporting underserved Americans with medical/public health services.

- . **TRANSAM** (Transfer of DoD Excess Medical and Other Supplies to Native Americans) Project -- This program transfers excess DoD medical and other supplies to Native American communities. Army Reserve, Air Force Reserve, and Marine Corps Reserve personnel received training in air and ground transportation, loading and movement. Supplies and equipment in the amount of \$6 million were delivered to 126 Native American urban health facilities around the country.
- . **Reef-Ex** -- Army and Naval Reservists and Army National Guard personnel used surplus tanks to construct artificial reefs in U.S. coastal waters in eight states (Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey and New York). Military training was accomplished in hazardous material handling, rail loading, port operations, and barge loading and movement.

Specific Youth Programs

DoD has traditionally supported specific residential youth training programs which provide National Guard and Reserve personnel the opportunity to enhance their leadership, communication, and management skills. These efforts are provided in addition to regular training and focus upon at-risk youth. Examples include:

- . **ChalleNGe** -- A National Guard-run 22-week residential program for 16-18 year-old high school dropouts who are unemployed, drug-free and currently not

involved with the criminal justice system. The program currently operates in 15 states (Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Virginia, and West Virginia). Core components of the program include citizenship, **GED/high** school diploma attainment, life-coping skills, community **involvement/projects**, health and hygiene, skills training, leadership, and physical training.

- . **STARBASE** --National Guard, Navy, Air Force Reserve nonresidential inner city school program operating in 15 states and territories (California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming, and Puerto Rico) that exposes inner city students in grades K-12 to real-world applications of math and science through experiential teaming, simulations, and experiments in aviation and space-related fields.